

MINUTES

— OF THE —

SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

— OF THE —

ALABAMA

♦ BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, ♦

— HELD WITH —

SPRING CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH, BUTLER CO., ALA.,

OCT. 9, 10 11 AND 12, 1885.

— ♦ —

OFFICERS:

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| D. LEE | MODERATOR, | Mt. Willing, Ala |
| J. C. FONVILLE | CLERK, | Mt Carmel, Ala |
| C. C. LLOYD | TREASURER, | Greenville, Ala |

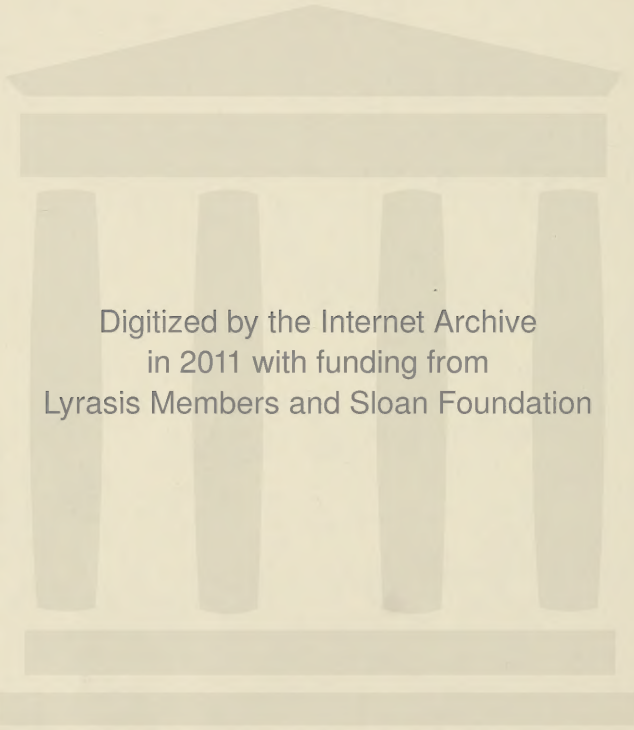
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The next Session of the Association, will be held with Hopewell Church,
Lowndes county, Ala., on Friday, before the second Sabbath in
October, 1886.

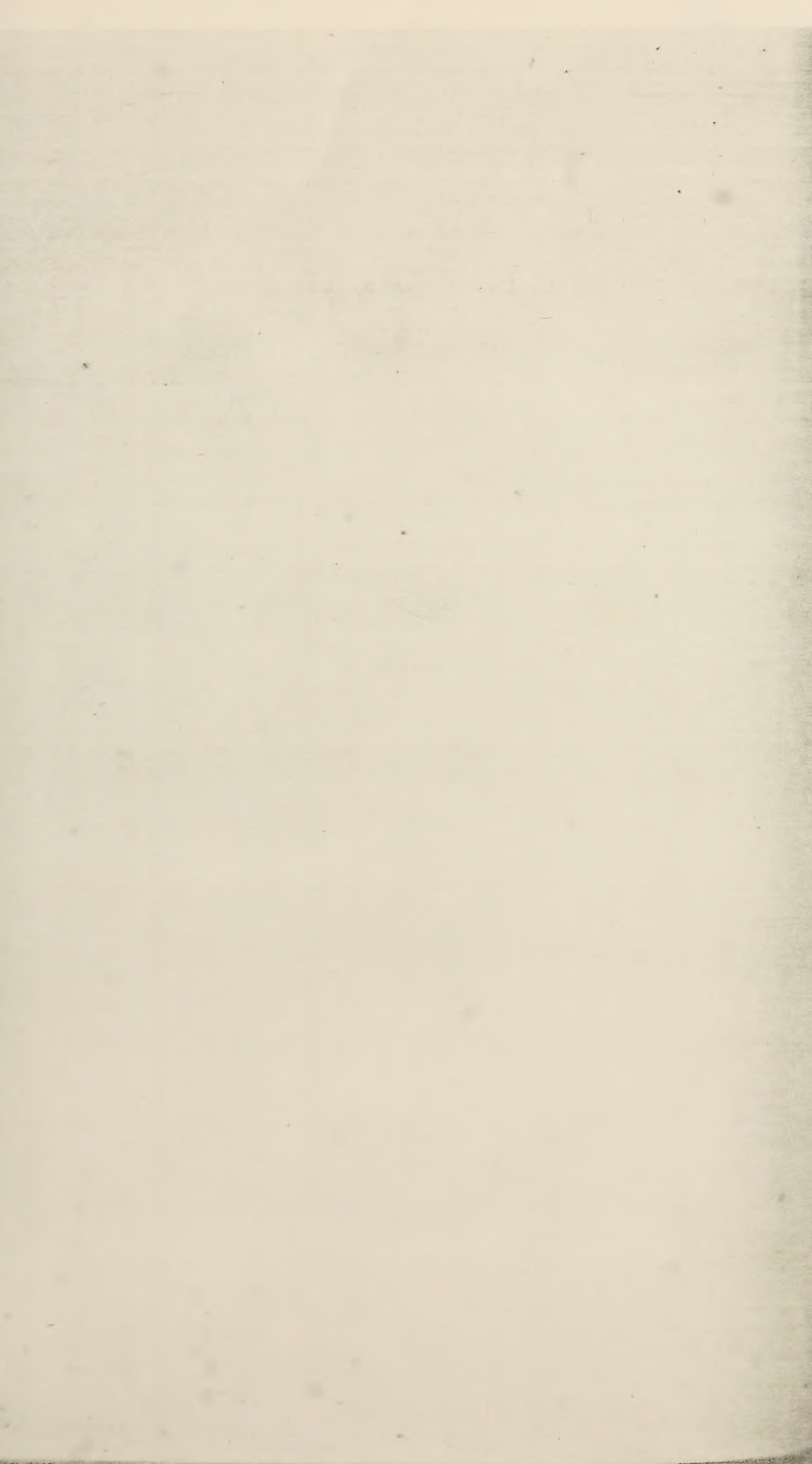
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MINUTES.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER, 9th, 1885.

Pursuant to adjournment, the delegates from the churches composing the Alabama Association, met with Spring Creek Church, Butler County Alabama, Friday October 9th, 1885.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Eld. D. Lee.

The Introductory sermon was postponed till to-morrow.

After devotional exercises, the letters were read, and the delegates enrolled as follows:

Antioch—C. C. Lloyd, C. S. Howell.

Damascus—Eld. W. C. Avant, S. F. Andress, Thomas Dobbs.

Union—J. Thomas, J. H. Kolb, J. W. Holloway.

New Ebenezer—B. W. Addison, G. R. Vickory, J. H. Daniels.

Spring Creek—J. A. Stringer, J. A. Thornton, H. S. Graydon.

Macedonia—No letter, no delegate.

Mountain Hill—No letter, no delegate.

Hickory Grove—W. P. McQueen, J. F. Simms, J. C. Fonville.

Steep Creek—Elder G. W. McQueen, T. L. S. Grace, S. A. Satterwhite.

Bethel—Elders F. C. Plaster, M. Bishop, R. M. Burt, A. F. Goldsmith, S. S. Bishop, C. A. Gunn, A. F. Childress.

Hayneville—J. A. Robertson.

Hopewell—Elders D. Lee, A. F. Borganier, A. G. Whittle.

New Bethel—J. R. Strickland, O. G. Bruner.

Good Hope—No letter, no delegate.

New Smyrna—Elder M. Pruitt.

Elder D. Lee, was re-elected Moderator, J. C. Fonville, Clerk, C. C. Lloyd, Treasurer.

Visiting Brethren of other Associations were invited to seats with the Association.

Elder B. A. Jackson and Bro. J. R. McLendon, were recognized from Montgomery Association, and Elder W. H. Cheatham from the Zion.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To Bethlehem Association—Elder G. E. Mize.

To Montgomery Association—Elders G. W. McQueen, F. C. Plaster, A. F. Childers, S. A. Satterwhite.

To State Convention—Elders R. M. Burt, M. Bishop, F. C. Plaster, W.

C. Avant, T. E. Morgan, A. F. Childers, C. A. Gunn, J. C. Fonville, T. T. Dobbs.

Chapel Hill Church, recently constituted, petitioned for membership, and received.

Chapel Hill—W. H. Rogers, J. W. Lee, S. T. Kelly.

Committee announced by the Moderator:

On Religious Exercises—Pastor and Deacons, Spring Creek Church, W. P. Bullock, and S. S. Bishop.

On Documents—Elders R. M. Burt, M. Pruitt, S. A. Satterwhite, J. W. Holloway, J. A. Thornton.

On State of Religion in the Churches—Elder J. W. McQueen, J. A. Stringer, A. F. Barganier, B. W. Addison, W. J. Harris.

On Finance—W. P. McQueen, A. F. Childers, C. A. Gunn,

Auditing Committee—J. C. Fonville, J. W. Holloway.

On Missions, (To report next year)—Elders F. C. Plaster, R. M. Burt, and C. A. Gunn.

On Sabbath Schools, (To report next year)—Elders R. M. Burt, A. F. Childers, S. A. Satterwhite.

Elder F. C. Plaster, read report on Missions, which after amendment was, by leave, withdrawn. Adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, 9 A. M., October 10, 1885.

After prayer by Brother Plaster, the Association was called to order.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved. Roll called and rules of decorum read.

Elder M. Bishop read report on Sabbath Schools.

Report amended and recommitted.

Elder F. C. Plaster read report on Education. During consideration of the report the hour of eleven arrived, business was suspended, and Elder G. W. McQueen preached Introductory Sermon. Recess until 2 o'clock.

SATURDAY, 2 o'clock P. M.

Reassembled. Indian Creek Church was received upon condition of obtaining their letter from Zion Association. Resumed consideration of report on Education. After remarks by Brother Lee, (Brother Bishop in the chair), the report was adopted.

Committee on Religious Exercises, reports, that Elder B. A. Jackson preach to-morrow at eleven A. M., Elder W. C. Avant at 2 A. M., and that Elder W. H. Cheatham conduct prayer meeting at 10 A. M.

Resolution by Brother Plaster: That the Association employ and keep in the field, the entire ensuing year, an Evangelist to work in the bounds of the association. Adopted.

A committee of three, Elders M. Bishop, J. A. Stringer and J. R. Strickland, was appointed to select an Executive Committee of six.

Elder G. W. McQueen, read report on State of Religion in Churches. Adopted.

Elder R. M. Burt, read report on Documents. Adopted.

Adjourned until 9 A. M., Monday.

Sunday, October 11, 1885.

Sabbath exercises: Prayer meeting at 10 A. M., conducted by Brother Cheatham. Preaching at eleven by Brother Jackson, after which a cash collection of \$24.85 for missions. Preaching at 2 P. M., by Brother Avant.

MONDAY, 9 A. M., October 12, 1885.

Association called to order, minutes of Saturday read and approved. Letter of dismission granted the Church at Philadelphia. Selected Hopewell Church as next place of meeting. Appropriated 25.00 to assist Spring Creek Church. Suspended business for a few moments and collected \$13.00 to assist the church at Rutledge.

Finance Committee reported and also the Treasurer.

These reports being correct were adopted.

The Executive Committee consists of G. W. McQueen, W. P. Bullock, S. A. Satterwhite, F. C. Plaster, J. C. Fonville, P. M. Bruner, A. F. Childers, C. A. Gunn and D. D. Jones.

Appropriated \$15.00 for services of Clerk.

Directed that Brother C. A. Gunn be paid \$2.50 for moneys paid out by him last year, on minutes. Ordered two hundred and fifty copies of minutes to be printed. Directed Executive Committee to correspond with State Board, to get possession of the David Lee Colportage Fund.

Brother A. F. Childers, read report of Ex-Board. Adopted.

Divided the money on hand, we appropriated, between Elders Burt, Bishop and Goldsmith for voluntary services during past year.

Committee on Religious Exercises reported that Elder T. E. Morgan will preach Introductory Sermon next year, Elder R. M. Burt alternate.

Elder F. C. Plaster, to preach Missionary Sermon, Elder G. W. Webb, alternate.

The thanks of the Association were tendered the Spring Creek Church, and citizens of the community for their hospitality and kindness.

After prayer by Brother T. E. Morgan, the Association adjourned to meet with Hopewell Church, Lowndes County, on Friday before second Sabbath in October, 1886.

DAVID LEE, Moderator.

J. C. FONVILLE, Clerk.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Education, beg leave to report, that Education primarily, means to "bring up". When the Scriptures say, "bring up a child in the way you would have him go," it means, that we should educate our children in the things, we would like them pursue in life. It comprehends

all that series of instruction, and discipline, which is intended to enlighten the understanding, correct the temper, and form the manner, and habits of youth, and fit them for usefulness in their future stations, (Webster.) The perpetuity, and good effects of Education, were foreseen by the Lord in Abraham, when He said, "Shall I hide that thing from Abraham which I do? seeing that Abraham shall become a great, and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him." The reason of this is explained as follows: "For I know him, that he will command his children, and his household after him," that is, that he would so educate his children, that they would follow the pursuits and calling of their father, and keep the way of the Lord to do justice and judgment, and that agrees with Solomon's "train up a child," or educate a child "in the way he should go," that is, in the pursuits, and things of life you would have him follow, "and when he is old," or reaches years to choose, "he will not depart from it," he will make it the calling of his life.

Baptists have ever been the friends of Education. Nothing is more unjust than the charge, still reiterated, that the regular Baptists have ever been indifferent to Education. Baptists have ever been, more or less, active in this work, and have had learned men in their ranks, from the time of Luke the Evangelist, and Paul the Apostle. They do not indeed deem Education *essential* to the ministry, but *desirable*. Proof of what they believe is seen in the number of their institutions of learning, the ability of their present ministry, as well as the facts of past history.

The Baptists, as early as 1756 in America, opened an Academy at Hopewell, N. J. for the education of youth, for the ministry, and the Baptists of Georgia and South Carolina, incorporated with those of Pennsylvania and New Jersey in the matter and raised funds for the purpose. It was opened by the Philadelphia Association, and Isaac Eaton was principal of the school. Since that time the Baptists have proved their belief in education, by planting schools, and contributing to their liberal endowments all over the land. The oldest of these is Brown's University, Providence, R. I.; followed by Colley University, Waterville, Maine; Hamilton Theological Seminary, Madison University, and Rochester, all of New York; Newton Theological Institution, of Mass.; Denison University, Grandville, Ohio; Wake Forrest College, N. C.; Franklin College, Indiana; Mercer University, Macon, Ga.; Howard College, Marion, Ala.; Baylor University, Texas; University at Louisburg, Penn.; William Jewel College, Liberty, Mo.; Mississippi College at Clinton; Furman University, Greenville, S. C.; Georgetown College, Ky.; Bethel College, Russellville, Ky.; Carson College, Tenn.; Central University, Pillar, Iowa; Mt. Pleasant College, Mo.; Kalamazoo College, Mich.; La Grange College, Mo.; McMinerville College; Oregon; Waco University, Texas; Vassar College, N. Y.; Attawa University, Kansas; Des Moines University, Iowa; the Southern Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; is the one school specially for the ministry of the South. We have amounts, contributed by thirty four men footing up two

million five hundred and seventy eight thousand dollars, a small part of the whole endowments. These schools, besides many good schools we have for young ladies, especially in the South, are all in a prosperous, and vigorous condition. With these advantages for education, we see no reason why the children of the present generation of Baptists, should not be well educated, and that, too, without going outside the schools of their own providing. The Howard and the Judson, located at Marion, Ala., are worthy of the confidence and patronage of all Alabamians, and especially of Baptists. Your Committee are of the opinion, that the apparent opposition, that has existed with a few Baptists against education, and especially ministerial education has grown out of a misapplication, or use of the term *education* itself. The idea of *scholarship* has been substituted and accepted in the place of *education*. To observe the distinction between the words, is to remove the difficulty. Education is a development; scholarship an attainment. Education has to do with mind; education builds the house, and trusts its furniture to another. Scholarship has to do with books, with grammar, with literature. Education makes one able to think; scholarship gives one power to express his thoughts. Education is fundamental; scholarship, ornamental. The educated man thinks; the scholarly man knows what others are thinking or have thought. Self made men are educated but not always scholarly. Substitute culture for education, and the objections cease to exist. Our institutions of learning are intended as helps to educate, after which men may, ultimately, become scholars.

We recommend to all parents to endeavor to educate their children and to all churches to see that their ministers are educated.

Fraternally Submitted,

F. C. PLASTER, Chairman.

REPORT OF EX-BOARD, ALABAMA ASSOCIATION.

It being, as we conceive, the grand work of the Association, to keep a Missionary or Evangelist all the time within our bounds, your Board heartily endorse your action in this determination. We beg to report our work for the past year. We appointed Vice-Presidents as follows: Brother C. C. Lloyd, of 1st. District; Bro. C. A. Gunn, of 2nd. District; Bro. J. L. Hinson of 3rd. District.

It was made their duty to hold meetings of two days embracing 5th Sabbaths in each District. They were to select subjects, and name speakers, so as to enlist as much interest as possible, and take collections for missionary purposes. Bro. Lloyd, held meetings at Union and Damascus, and collected \$705. Bro. Gunn held meetings at Steep Creek, collected \$37.00 cash, and \$13.00 pledges; at Hickory Grove, and collected \$7.30; at Ft. Deposit, and collected \$9 00. Total cash and pledges \$73.35. The Church at Bethel sent up \$16.70 for the present years work, and there were \$22, from last year making a total of \$98.95 cash. We have paid out \$65, to our mission-

ary, Bro. L. G. Skipper, whose services we secured for one fourth the time from June 1st. to Oct. 1st. He did faithful work, and we trust the seed sown has fallen in good, honest hearts, and will bring forth fruit abundantly to the glory of God. Bro. Skipper, labored at Barganier's School House Spring Creek. New Ebenezer and Philadelphia. We report only Macedonia without a pastor. Brethren, Bishop, Goldsmith and Burt, have done voluntary work in destitute places, and we recommend they be remunerated therefor. The members of the Board being widely separated it was inconvenient to hold meetings.

We believe that if the proper man is secured for our missionary work that through the benign influence of the "glorious Gospel of our blessed God," our waste places will soon "blossom as the rose."

Fraternally submitted,

A. F. CHILDERS, for the Board.

STATE OF RELIGION IN THE CHURCHES.

Your Committee beg leave to report that twelve (12) churches have sent letters to the Association. Of these, six churches report an increase of members, and a state of prosperity; of the six others, some report a good condition, and none report much decline. We believe, therefore, that we have reason to thank God and take courage as an association. We notice there has been an unusual number of deaths, and are reminded our Father is calling His children home, and therefore, we sorrow not as those who have no hope, for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, "them also which have fallen asleep in Jesus, will God bring with Him." Twenty-eight deaths are reported. Number of baptized, fifty-two (52). We regret the meagre amounts sent up by the churches, for missionary purposes, and desire to call the attention of the brethren to the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who though He was rich, for our sakes became poor, that we through His poverty might be rich.

Fraternally Submitted,

G. W. McQUEEN, For Committee.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your Committee on Documents, report that there are thirteen Churches that send letters.

The Church at Union has ordained Brother J. R. Jordan to the office of Deacon. Two Churches recommend that the Association have an Evangelist in its bounds. There is one Church recently constituted—Chapel Hill.

We note that Steep Creek asks the Association to hold its next meeting with her.

Fraternally submitted.

R. M. BURT, Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

C. C. Lloyd, Treasurer for 1885, in account with Ala. Bapt. Association.

DEBITS.

| | Oct. 1885. |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| To amount for Minutes..... | \$ 24.90 |
| " " " Home Missions..... | 3.00 |
| " " " Foreign Missions | 15.00 |
| " " " State Missions..... | 5.00 |
| " " " Associational Missions..... | 100.45 |
| " " " " " from district meeting | 8.35 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$156.70 |
| Vouchers for Foreign Missions..... | \$29.00 |
| " " State Missions..... | 5.00 |
| " " Associational Missions.. | 52.00 |
| " " Ministerial Education... | 61.00 |

\$147.00

J. C. FONVILLE, }
 J. W. HOLLOWAY, } Auditing Com.

PLEDGES FOR ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| G. W. McQueen | \$ 50 00 |
| Hickory Grove Church..... | 50 00 |
| Hayneville Church..... | 50 00 |
| Hopewell Church..... | 50 00 |
| Bethel Church..... | 100 00 |
| John W. Holloway..... | 5 00 |
| J. F. Sims..... | 10 00 |
| J. G. Tharnes..... | 2 00 |
| A. J. McDaniel | 1 00 |
| E. Lester..... | 50 |
| F. E. May..... | 10 00 |
| W. H. Dean..... | 5 00 |
| Damascus Church..... | 15 00 |
| Cash..... | 50 |
| W. E. Jay..... | 2 00 |
| John A. Stringer | 10 00 |
| T. E. Morgan..... | 2 00 |
| J. M. Cook | 2 00 |
| J. H. Staggers..... | 2 00 |
| L. B. Perdue..... | 2 00 |

Total

\$ 369 00

| CHURCHES. | PASTORS. | CLERKS. | POST OFFICE | Sabbath Meetings. | No. Members |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Antioch | W. C. Avant. | Jno. P. Gafford. | Greenville... | 1st .. | 58 |
| Damascus..... | W. C. Avant. | J. F. Barrett, <i>prt m</i> | Greenville... | 3rd .. | 106 |
| Union..... | W. H. Dean. | J. W. Holloway. | Honoroville.. | 4th .. | 65 |
| New Ebenezer.. | A. F. Goldsmith | G. R. Vickery... | Argus | 2nd.. | 57 |
| Spring Creek... | M. Bishop.... | A. J. McDaniel.. | Best. | 2nd.. | 61 |
| Macedonia..... | | | | 4th .. | |
| Chapel Hill... | G. W. Web. | Wm. Rogers.... | | | 14 |
| Mountain Hill.. | A. F. Goldsmith | | | 4th .. | |
| Hickory Grove.. | G. W. McQueen | J. C. Fonville... | Mt. Carmel.. | 3rd .. | 24 |
| Steep Creek.... | G. W. McQueen | M. A. Powell... | Hayneville.. | 2 & 4 | 71 |
| Bethel..... | F. C. Plöster.. | J. E. Bishop.... | Ft. Deposit.. | 1 & 3 | 230 |
| Hayneville..... | | J. P. Streety.... | Hayneville.. | | 22 |
| Hopewell..... | D. Lee..... | A. F. Bargainier. | Mt. Willing. | 3rd.. | 114 |
| New Bethel.... | J. M. Fortune. | J. R. Strickland. | Bragg's..... | 2nd.. | 35 |
| Good Hope..... | | | | | |
| New Smyrna.... | M. Bishop.... | | | 4th .. | |
| Indian Creek... | | | | 4th .. | |

REPORT ON FINANCE.

| CHURCHES. | For Minutes. | For Home Missions. | For Foreign Missions. | For State Missions. | For Association- al Missions.... | For Ministerial Education..... | From District | Meetings. |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Antioch | \$ 1 00 | \$..... | \$..... | \$..... | \$ 2 00 | \$..... | \$ 5 80 | |
| Union..... | 1 50 | | | | | | 27 00 | voc'hr |
| Damascus..... | 2 00 | | | | 3 75 | | 9 00 | voc'hr |
| New Ebenezer... | 1 50 | | | | | | 7 30 | voc'hr |
| Spring Creek... | 2 00 | | | | 7 60 | | 1 25 | |
| Macedonia..... | | | | | | | | |
| Chapel Hill.... | 1 50 | | | | | | | |
| Mountain Hill.. | | | | | | | | |
| Hickory Grove.. | 1 50 | | | | 17 00 | | | |
| Steep Creek.... | 3 00 | 3 00 | 4 00 | 5 00 | 19 55 | | | |
| Bethel..... | 3 90 | | | | 16 70 | | | |
| | | | voc'hr | voc'hr | | voc'hr | | |
| Hayneville..... | 1 00 | | 29 00 | 5 00 | 4 00 | 55 00 | | |
| Hopewell..... | 4 00 | | 10 00 | | | | | |
| New Bethel.... | 1 00 | | | | 5 00 | 6 00 | | |
| Good Hope..... | | | | | | | | |
| New Smyrna.... | 1 00 | | | | | | | |
| Cash on Sabbath. | | | 1 00 | | 24 85 | | | |
| Total..... | \$24 90 | \$3 00 | \$44 00 | \$10 00 | 100 45 | \$61 00 | \$60 35 | |

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. McQUEEN, Chairman.

Examined and found correct. J. C. FONVILLE, for Com.

